

5 I claim:

1. A lamination process for butterfly wings, comprising the steps of:
  - mixing a liquid epoxy resin;
  - applying a layer of said liquid epoxy resin to a sheet of thin smooth material;
  - 10 affixing an butterfly wing to said layer of liquid epoxy resin on said sheet;
  - allowing said layer of liquid epoxy resin to dry;
  - applying a layer of fixative to an exposed side of said butterfly wing;
  - allowing said layer of fixative to dry;
  - applying a first layer of clear lacquer/resin over said layer of fixative;
  - 15 allowing said first layer of lacquer/resin to dry;
  - cutting along an outer perimeter of said butterfly wing to separate said wing from a remainder of said sheet;
  - smoothing said perimeter of said cut-out butterfly wing;
  - applying a second layer of clear lacquer/resin over said first layer of clear
  - 20 lacquer/resin;
  - allowing said second layer of lacquer/resin to dry;
  - applying a third layer of clear lacquer/resin over said second layer of clear lacquer/resin; and
  - allowing said third layer of lacquer/resin to dry;
  - 25 wherein a preserved laminated butterfly wing suitable for use in all manner of decorative design results.

5           2. The lamination process for butterfly wings according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
drilling a hole through an end of said butterfly wing, and  
affixing a bail to said hole,  
wherein a preserved laminated butterfly wing suitable for use in all manner of jewelry  
10 results.

3. The lamination process for butterfly wings according to claim 1, wherein said sheet of thin smooth material is a polyester film such as Mylar®.

15           4. A laminated butterfly wing, comprising:  
a first layer of a sheet of thin smooth material;  
a second layer of a liquid epoxy resin applied to said first layer;  
a third layer of a natural butterfly wing affixed to said first and second layer combination;  
20 a fourth layer of fixitive applied to the exposed side of said butterfly wing;  
a fifth layer of a first application of clear lacquer applied to said fourth layer;  
a sixth layer of a second application of clear lacquer applied to said fifth layer; and  
a seventh layer of a third application of clear lacquer applied to said sixth layer.

25           5. The laminated butterfly wing according to claim 4, further comprising:  
a drilled hole, and  
a bail affixed to said hole.

5           6. The laminated butterfly wing according to claim 4, wherein said sheet of thin smooth material is a polyester film such as Mylar®.

7. A lamination process for extremely fragile butterfly wings, comprising the steps of:

10           affixing a natural butterfly wing to a first sheet of self-adhesive ultra-thin smooth material;

            affixing a second sheet of self-adhesive ultra-thin smooth material to the exposed side of said butterfly wing;

            mixing a liquid epoxy resin;

15           applying a layer of said liquid epoxy resin to a sheet of thin smooth material;

            affixing said first ultra-thin sheet to said layer of liquid epoxy resin on said sheet;

            allowing said layer of liquid epoxy resin to dry;

            applying a layer of fixative to said second ultra-thin sheet;

            allowing said layer of fixative to dry;

20           applying a first layer of clear lacquer/resin over said layer of fixative;

            allowing said first layer of lacquer/resin to dry;

            cutting along an outer perimeter of said butterfly wing to separate said wing from a remainder of said sheet;

            smoothing said perimeter of said cut-out butterfly wing;

25           applying a second layer of clear lacquer/resin over said first layer of clear lacquer/resin;

            allowing said second layer of lacquer/resin to dry;

5           applying a third layer of clear lacquer/resin over said second layer of clear  
lacquer/resin; and  
            allowing said third layer of lacquer/resin to dry;  
            wherein a preserved laminated butterfly wing suitable for use in all manner of  
decorative design results.

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8. The lamination process for extremely fragile butterfly wings according to claim 7,  
further comprising the steps of:

            drilling a hole through an end of said butterfly wing; and  
            affixing a bail to said hole,

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            wherein a preserved laminated butterfly wing suitable for use in all manner of jewelry  
results.

9. The lamination process for extremely fragile butterfly wings according to claim 7,  
wherein said sheet of thin smooth material is a polyester film such as Mylar®.

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10. A laminated butterfly wing, comprising:

            a first layer of a sheet of thin smooth material;

            a second layer of a liquid epoxy resin applied to said first layer;

            a third layer of a first sheet of ultra-thin smooth material;

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            a fourth layer of a natural butterfly wing affixed to said first sheet of ultra-thin smooth  
material;

- 5           a fifth layer of a second sheet of ultra-thin smooth material affixed to said natural butterfly wing;
- a sixth layer of fixative applied to said second sheet of ultra-thin smooth material;
- a seventh layer of a first application of clear lacquer applied to said sixth layer;
- an eighth layer of a second application of clear lacquer applied to said seventh layer;
- 10       and
- a ninth layer of a third application of clear lacquer applied to said eighth layer.

11. The laminated butterfly wing according to claim 10, further comprising:
- a drilled hole, and
- 15       a bail affixed to said hole.

12. The laminated butterfly wing according to claim 10, wherein said sheet of thin smooth material is a polyester film such as Mylar®.

- 20       13. A lamination process for insect wings, comprising the steps of:
- mixing a liquid epoxy resin;
- applying a layer of said liquid epoxy resin to a sheet of thin smooth material;
- affixing an insect wing to said layer of liquid epoxy resin on said sheet;
- allowing said layer of liquid epoxy resin to dry;
- 25       applying a layer of fixative to an exposed side of said insect wing;
- allowing said layer of fixative to dry;
- applying a first layer of clear lacquer/resin over said layer of fixative;
- allowing said first layer of lacquer/resin to dry;

- 5           cutting along an outer perimeter of said insect wing to separate said wing from a remainder of said sheet;
- smoothing said perimeter of said cut-out insect wing;
- applying a second layer of clear lacquer/resin over said first layer of clear lacquer/resin;
- 10          allowing said second layer of lacquer/resin to dry;
- applying a third layer of clear lacquer/resin over said second layer of clear lacquer/resin; and
- allowing said third layer of lacquer/resin to dry;
- wherein a preserved laminated insect wing suitable for use in all manner of decorative
- 15       design results.

14. The lamination process for insect wings according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

- drilling a hole through an end of said insect wing, and
- 20       affixing a bail to said hole,
- wherein a preserved laminated insect wing suitable for use in all manner of jewelry results.

15. The lamination process for insect wings according to claim 1, wherein said sheet
- 25       of thin smooth material is a polyester film such as Mylar®.

16. A laminated insect wing, comprising:

- 5           a first layer of a sheet of thin smooth material;  
            a second layer of a liquid epoxy resin applied to said first layer;  
            a third layer of a natural insect wing affixed to said first and second layer

combination;

- a fourth layer of fixative applied to the exposed side of said insect wing;  
10           a fifth layer of a first application of clear lacquer applied to said fourth layer;  
            a sixth layer of a second application of clear lacquer applied to said fifth layer; and  
            a seventh layer of a third application of clear lacquer applied to said sixth layer.

17. A lamination process for insect wings, comprising the steps of:

- 15           applying a layer of liquid epoxy resin to a sheet of smooth material;  
            affixing an insect wing to said layer of liquid epoxy resin on said sheet;  
            allowing said layer of liquid epoxy resin to dry;  
            applying a layer of fixative to an exposed side of said insect wing and allowing to  
dry;  
20           applying a first finish coat over said layer of fixative;  
            allowing said first finish coat to dry;  
            cutting along an outer perimeter of said insect wing to separate said wing from a  
remainder of said sheet;  
            smoothing said perimeter of said cut-out insect wing;  
25           wherein the resulting multi-layer laminated insect wing is suitable for use in all  
manner of decorative design results.